

II. SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

The paragraph at Page 1, line 14 continuing to line 16 should be amended to read as follows:

~~In~~ It is also known from EP 0461576 a single piece moulding element, provided on its inner surface with slots properly shaped to engage projections emerging from the body.

The paragraph at Page 2, lines 15 to 17 should be amended to read as follows:

This prior art ~~realisation~~ realization, though it is certainly effective from the point of view of fastening and operative reliability, ~~has~~ nonetheless also has shewn considerable drawbacks.

The paragraph at Page 2, lines 18 to 23 should be amended to read as follows:

In particular the need to ~~realise~~ provide millings for the access of the engagement elements in correspondence with the longitudinal seat clearly entails an additional working phase which causes non negligible manufacturing costs. Moreover, since the main body whereon the milling is performed is typically made of material having good mechanical characteristics and, oftentimes, even of bi-material, milling operations are certainly not easy.

The paragraph at Page 4, lines 5-6 should be amended to read as follows:

This last ~~realisation~~ realization, although it does eliminate the burdensome problem of the milling operation, is also afflicted by some drawbacks.

The paragraph at Page 5, lines 5-9 should be amended to read as follows:

A further aim is to avoid the need for milling operations on the extruded section bar and provide whilst allowing to realise such a moulding element as to be able to be associated to the body of a motor vehicle, by the with simple method of operations also engaging each of the rivets emerging from the body of the motor vehicle to a corresponding seat with a single attachment operation.

The paragraph at Page 5, lines 21-22 should be amended to read as follows:

Such description A non-limiting example of the invention is given by way of the shall be made hereafter hereinafter with reference to the below detailed description and accompanying drawings, provided purely by way of non-limiting indication.

The paragraph at Page 6, line 2 should be amended to read as follows:

Figure 2 is a cross section taken along view lines according to trace II-II of Figure 1;

The paragraph at Page 6, lines 7-8 should be amended to read as follows:

Figure 5 is a cross section of the continuous support element of Fig. 3 taken along view lines according to the trace V-V of Figure 3;

The paragraph at Page 6, lines 9-10 should be amended to read as follows:

Figure 6 is a cross section of the a continuous support element of Fig. 3 taken along view lines according to the trace VI-VI of Figure 3;

The paragraph at Page 7, lines 3-12 should be amended to read as follows:

The main section bar presents an outer side 2a whereto is associated a surface finish coating 3 which, ~~need~~ing to be rigidly coupled to the ~~main body itself~~, can preferably be joined thereto to the main section by means of injection moulding techniques or by ~~in~~ co-extrusion with the main section bar. The surface finish coating 3 needs to be rigidly coupled to the main body itself. Preferably, but not necessarily, the main section bar can also be provided with a flexible seal lip 4 extending substantially along the entire longitudinal development of the moulding element 1 and presenting a base portion 4a rigidly engaged to the main section bar 2. From a manufacturing point of view, the coupling between the main section bar 2 and the seal lip 4 can be obtained with various techniques, for instance by means of their co-extrusion effected continuously.

The paragraph beginning at Page 8, line 20 and continuing to Page 9, line 19 should be amended to read as follows:

Actually, to allow the attachment means 6 to be coupled to the main section bar 2 during the assembly phase, it is provided for the longitudinal seat 8 to present, in correspondence at least with one of its ends, an insertion opening 8a to receive the continuous support element 7 which can traverse the insertion opening itself and can be made to slide in the seat 8 until reaching the desired axial positioning. Once the attachment means 6 are suitably positioned with respect to the main section bar 2 the continuous element is fastened axially by means of axial locking means 14 (Figure 1) operatively interposed between the main section bar itself and the continuous support element. More specifically, such axial locking means can comprise conventional locking organs mechanisms for instance of the threaded kind or a slot, the latter being provided for instance with dovetail undercut, designed to receive a corresponding portion integral to the main section bar. Note that in the embodiment shown the finish coating 3, once rigidly associated to the main section bar 2, will present a portion destined to be inserted in the axial locking slot obtained on the continuous support element to lock it in the axial sense. With reference now to the particular structure of the attachment means 6, it should be noted that the continuous support element 7 presents a pre-set number of attachment seats 11 (in particular more than one seat and in general in a number equal to that of the projections) positioned at a pre-set mutual distance. The seats 11 are

distanced correspondingly to the distance between the fastening projections 9 presented by the motor vehicle body and are provided with means for axially locking the head of the projections 9.

The paragraph beginning at Page 11, lines 13-19 should be amended to read as follows:

It should be noted that the need to ~~realise~~ realize different types of elements can be linked for instance to the fact that sometimes the projections of the motor vehicle are covered by means of coating clips 18 (see in particular Figure 8) which increase and modify the dimensions and geometry of the attachments thereby forcing the use of seats of different kinds. Obviously, by appropriately varying the dimensions, also the first type of continuous elements can be adapted for use even in case of employment of clips for coating the rivets.

The paragraph beginning at Page 11, line 20 and continuing to Page 12, line 5 should be amended to read as follows:

Lastly, from the point of view of the materials, it should be noted that the continuous support element 7 can be ~~realised~~ realized, for instance by means of moulding or by means of extrusion and subsequent removal of material, with:

- polyoxymethylene;
- acetal resins;
- reinforced polyamides;

thermoplastic or heat-hardening materials possibly reinforced with fibres of various nature, suitable for the purposes; metal alloys.

The paragraph at Page 12, lines 6-12 should be amended to read as follows:

In turn, the main section bar 2 and the coating 3 can be ~~realised~~ realized respectively of extruded PVC compounds with metal core or fibres, or any other thermoplastic or heat-hardening material or cured rubbers suitable for the purpose, reinforced with fibres or metal cores or not so reinforced, as well as for instance soft PVC compounds the better to absorb any impacts, or any other thermoplastic or heat-hardening material or cured rubber suitable for the purpose.

The paragraph at Page 12, lines 13-15 should be amended to read as follows:

The ~~realisation~~ realization of a moulding element according to the invention entails a phase wherin a "C" shaped section bar 2, possibly incorporating a reinforcement core, is extruded.

The paragraph at Page 13, lines 6-10 should be amended to read as follows:

Page 13 line 8: In the first place, it should be noted that the moulding element according to the present invention substantially solves all the typical drawbacks of prior art ~~realisations~~ whilst while assuring effective fastening, high operative reliability as well as reduced costs both to manufacture and to assemble the various elements comprising it.